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To:
Shui Qiu MD, PhD
Editor of World Journal of Orthopedics

Halle (Saale), 20th of march 2016

Concern: revised manuscript (Ms No.: 24413): "Evaluation of bone remodeling in scaphoid non-unions" to your journal

Dear Prof. Qui,

We hereby re-submit the revised manuscript "**Evaluation of bone remodeling in scaphoid non-unions**" to publication in your journal.

The following modifications were made in accordance to the concerns of the reviewers, and are itemized below. The corrections are marked in yellow background in the manuscript.

Editor

Concerning the figures, I send you the native figures, which I have put in ppt, according to your recommendations.

Reviewer 1

It is good article.

Thank you.

Reviewer 3

This is a study on the bone remodeling in regard to the age of scaphoid non-unions (SNU) with immunohistochemistry. The rationale for the study is appropriate and it is an interesting paper with a valuable contribution, but requires some revision. English needs to be improved throughout the text. An important fact that could influence bone remodeling is patient age. Since you have a group of patients with so different ages it would be important to also correlate the number of multinuclear osteoclasts with patient age, instead of just with SNU age.

We would like to thank the reviewers for their comments. We agree that patient age might be a confounder and added it to the analysis. The two-sided Pearson correlation analysis was used to investigate the linear relationship with regard to patient's age and counted cell numbers. No significant correlations have been found between the age of the patients and all investigated cell types. (Materials and Methods, data analysis, page 10, line 23; Results, cell counting and correlation analysis, page 13, lines 12-13). The English has been revised throughout the manuscript.

We trust to have addressed the concerns of the reviewers and sincerely hope that the manuscript would be favorably viewed for publication in "World Journal of Orthopedics".

With best regards,

Susanne Rein, MD PhD